



PRESS NOTICE

**BILL NETTLES
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ROCK HILL MAN SENTENCED TO 70 MONTHS
ON FIREARM CHARGE**

COLUMBIA, South Carolina ---- TRAVIS HART, age 29, of Rock Hill, South Carolina, was sentenced today to 70 months imprisonment, which will be followed by three (3) years supervised release. United States District Judge Joseph F. Anderson, Jr. imposed the sentence today after HART's earlier guilty plea to the charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition.

Evidence presented during the earlier guilty plea hearing and the sentencing hearing established that on September 15, 2010, an officer with the Rock Hill Police Department attempted a lawful traffic stop of HART's vehicle. HART attempted to flee in the vehicle and then bailed from the vehicle, being dragged for a short while before the vehicle crashed. HART then fled on foot into some woods, where a K-9 dog located him. Officers recovered a loaded .45 caliber Hi-Point handgun, 29 grams of marijuana and

over \$1,300 in cash from HART.

HART is prohibited under federal law from possessing firearms and/or ammunition based upon his prior state felony convictions. HART has prior state court convictions for disturbing schools, shoplifting, possession of crack cocaine, assault and battery, distribution of crack cocaine, distribution of crack cocaine within the proximity of a school, resisting arrest, reckless driving, possession of marijuana 2nd offense (two separate counts), driving under suspension 3rd offense, and distribution/possession with intent to distribute drugs other than crack cocaine within the proximity of a school.

The case was investigated by agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Rock Hill Police Department, and was prosecuted as part of the joint federal, state and local Project CeaseFire initiative, which aggressively prosecutes firearm cases. Assistant United States Attorney Jean M. Popowski of the Columbia office handled the prosecution of the case.

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